OLR Bill Analysis sSB 932

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF SEVERE NEED SCHOOL FOR PURPOSES OF THE SCHOOL BREAKFAST GRANT PROGRAM.

SUMMARY:

This bill makes more schools eligible for state school breakfast grants by reducing an eligibility criterion. It makes schools eligible if at least 20%, rather than 40%, of the lunches they serve are free or at reduced prices. The current 40% threshold is fixed in federal law, which the statutes incorporate by reference (Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended) (see BACKGROUND). The bill places the 20% criterion in statute.

It also makes conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2011

BACKGROUND

Child Nutrition Act of 1966

This law defines severe need under the school breakfast program as including a school that served, for the two years before the grant year, at least 40% of its lunches free or at a reduced price (42 USC § 1773(b)). The federal Health Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-296) is the most recent renewal of the Child Nutrition Act.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference Yea 24 Nay 8 (03/17/2011)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 43 Nay 5 (04/25/2011)